

By the Queene.



So An Exemplification of her Maiesties Letters Patent, concerning her Highnesse Towne and Port of Hasting, in the Countie of Suffex,



Lizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of Englande, Fraunce & Ireland, defender of the fayth &c. To all people to whom these our letters patent shall come, greeting. Where of our owne knowledge & certeine science we do understand, that our Towne and Port of Hasting, in our Countie of Suffex, being þ ancient Towne of our Cinque Portes, is scituated vpon the maine Sea, verie neare the middest of a great Bay or open place, lying betweene two points of the land, which stretche soorth farre into the Sea, called the Beachy and the Nasse, distant eache from the other thirtie miles, right opposite to the Realme of Fraunce, the auncient enemy of our Countrey: as we are credibly enfourmed, the same Towne hath of long time beeue a place not onely very well inhabited with warlike people, and greatly replenished with good Mariners & other men meete and scruiicable for our Naue, well storied with Shippes, Barkes, Crayers, and Boates, but also sufficently furnished with Armour, and Artillery of all sortes, both for Sea and Land: also very meete and commodious for Fishing, and the Bay plenteously abounding with all sortes of fish, according to the seuerall seasons of the yeere: by reason whereof the same Towne hath of long time bene by the inhabitants thereof, in time of warres, manfully defended against the sundry invasions and attempts of the French Nation, our coast thereabouts lying very open against the French, by them often kept from spoyle. Our Marchants and louing subiects, and other trauellers sayling along that coast, haue oftentimes by their Shippes, and oftentimes by their harborough, beeue sauued & rescued from the furie of the enemies, and the tyrannie of Pirates: our Naue, and the Naue of sundry our noble Progenitors, Kings of this Realme, the better appointed by reason of their skilfull Mariners, and cunning Seamen: Also our house-hold, our Citizens of London, and our Countreis to the said Port adioyning, greatly beneficed by their fishing. And where our said Towne hath of long time had a Pece or Harborough made of Timber, and other things set and placed in the Sea, for the succour of the Seamen, & defence of their Ships, Barkes, Crayers and Boates, against the great rage and furie of the Sea, which hath bin alwayes maintained at the great and importable charges of the inhabitantes of our said Towne of Hasting, vntil of late time the same Pece or Harborough was at a sudden, by the great violence & extreme rage of þ Sea, broken downe and caried away: sithence whiche time the towne is much decayed, the traffique of Marchants thither forsaken, the fishing, by reason of the dangerous landing, litle vsed, the riche & wealthy men gone thence, & the poore men yet remaining would gladly do the like, if without offence of our lawes they might be elsewhere received: whereby our people are likely to perishe, and our said Port likely to be subuerted and become desolate, or els the people there by necessitie driven to commit great and heynous offences, to the great hindrance of the publique weale, vntesse some spedie remedie be for the prouided. And where we be enformed by diuers of our priuie Counsell and Nobilitie, and by diuers Artificers very cunning and skilfull in that kinde of facultie, that a very good Hauen or Rhoade, for the arriuing and sauegard of Shippes, Barkes, Crayers and Boates, may necre vnto the said Port with no great charge be made, to the great relife of the inhabitants, and of all Marchants and trauellers sailing along the narrowe Seas, & to the strength of our said Coaste: and that the inhabitantes of our said Porte be ready and willing to bestowe their landes,

goods, and labours, to the uttermost of their power, to accomplish the same notwithstanding. . . . ading of themselves
 very vnable to finish so great a worke, likely as it is thought to amount vnto the summe of foure thousand
 poundes. We therefore considering the premisses, and minding to prouide for the preseruation of our people,
 the maintenance of our Navy and Towne, for the defence of our Coaste, and of Marchants & trauellers,
 and that the prouision of our householde, our Citie and Countrey be not diminished, at the humble suite of
 our Baileye, Jurates, & Comminaltie of our said Towne of Hasting, do by these our letters Patents not
 onely give and graunt vnto our said Baileye, Jurates, and Comminaltie, full power & authoritie, to make
 newe, and finish one Hauen, in such place or places nere vnto our said Towne and Port, as to them shall
 seeme most conuenient, and to the finishing and accomplishing thereof, yeeld our Royall assent and consent:
 but also for the furtherance and better helping forth of the same, we do commend the same good and lauda-
 ble intent and purpose, to the charitable and liberall contribucion and benevolence of all and singuler our
 louing subiects dwelling within any our Realmes & Dominions, that the rather for our recommendation,
 the more liberall contribucion by our saide Subiects may be yeelded to the finishing of the saide Hauen, a
 worke tending much to the defence of our Realmes, and to the profite of the common wealth of the same, &
 which wilbe cause to auoide many great inconueniences that may issue by the neglecting thereof: and al-
 so be an evident declaration of the forward and willing mindes of all our louing subiects, to augment the
 prosperitie of our Realmes and Countreis. We of our speciall grace, certaine knowledge, & meere motion,
 haue giuen and graunted, and by these our letters Patent, do giue and graunt full licence, permission, and
 authoritie to our faithfull and welbeloued subiects, Richard Calueley, and John Jeffery, Jurates of our
 said Towne of Hasting, and Willm Belse of Ore Gentleman, and to euery of them, and to all and every
 other person or persons that shalbe thereunto deputed and assigned by them, or by any two of them, by wri-
 ting vnder the common seale of our said Towne of Hasting, to aske, receiu, collect, and take of all maner of
 persons whatsoever, Spirituall or Temporal, English borne or Straungers, in all places, as wel within
 berties as without, exempt or not exempt, our citizes of London or els where, within any our Realmes, Ci-
 ties and Dominions wheresoever, Christian contribucion and benevolence of all our said louing subiects,
 but it may or shall please God to mooue or stirre them to giue, contribute, yeelde & pay towards the newe
 making of the said Hauen. And for the better & more speedie execution of this our pleasure, we do by these
 our said letters Patent, will, require, and straightly commaund all our Sherifes in their severall Shires
 and Countreis, all our Justices of peace in their severall limittes, and all Maiors, Baileys, and all other
 head Officers, within all Cities, Townes corporate, and other Jurisdiccons, & also all Parsons, Vicars,
 Ministers, and Curates of Churches and Parishes, not onely of their owne parts to be helping with their
 verall deuotion toward the said good and laudable worke, but also to recommende our speciall pleasure, &
 the furtherance of the said Hauen in their severall Countreis, Limittes, Cities, Townes, Liberties, Parish
 burches, Hamlets, or Villages, for the better obteining of liberal contribucion thereunto. And further our
 will & pleasure is, that some of the honourable of our priuie Counsel shall vpon the sight of these presents, or
 the Exemplificatiō of the same, at the request of the said Richard Calueley, John Jeffery, and Willm Belse, or of any of them, direct their letters to the Lord Maior of our Citie of London, & to the Justices of
 peace of the same Citie, to all Sherifes in euery our Shires or Countreis within our Realme and Domi-
 nions, and to all Maiors, Baileys, Gouernors, & head Officers of Cities, Boroughs, Townes corporate,
 Landes, and Franchised places, commanding the said Lord Maior, the Justices, the said Sherifes, Bai-
 leys, Gouernors, and head officers aforesaid, that they and euery of them, within their severall Limittes,
 Jurisdiccons, and Liberties, at the quarter Sessions, or generall assemblie within their severall limittes,
 Jurisdiccons or Liberties, which shalbe next after the receipt of the said letters, or of these presents, or the
 Exemplification of the same, shall direct the tenor of this our pleasure to all and singuler Justices of peace
 within their severall limittes, jurisdictions or liberties, requiring, and straightly commaunding them and
 euery of them in our name, to appoint with all conuenient speede within their severall limittes, one Consta-
 ble in every hundred, rape, lathe, or wapentake at the least, and one Churchwarden in euery Parish, & them
 to command and exhort, not only to be liberall them selues in their contribucion, but also that the said Con-
 stables and Churchwardens shal write the name of euery Parish, and of euery man of habilitie within the
 same, and of them to aske & receive their deuotion, and earnestly in our name to exhort them to liberalitie, in
 contributing to the making of the said Hauen, and truely to write downe the summe which euery man shall
 giue, and the money which they shall thereby collect and receive, and the names of euery gauer, and the true
 summe which euery one shal giue, & also the names of all such as shall not giue, or shall refuse to contribute,
 in writing shall within one moneth next after they shall haue notice of thi our pleasure, deliver vp vnto

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such our Justices of peace of whom they received their charge, if he shall then be living, otherwise to such of our Justices as shalbe next dwelling thereabouts. And that our further pleasure is, that our saide Justices of peace shall by their warrant call before them, all and singuler such persons as shall refuse to give or contribute liberally towardes this good woorke, and vnderstande the cause of their refusall, and vnto them declare our pleasure, exhorting and perswading them to conformitie, which if they shall notwithstanding, obstinately refuse, then to certifie their names & dwelling places to vs, or to our priuy Counsell. And that our said Justices of peace and euery of them, shall at the Sessions or generall assemblie, holden next within their said severall Sheires, Limittes, Jurisdiccons or Liberties, deliuer and yeilde vp vnto the said Lord Maior, Sherifes, Maiors, Baillifes, Gouernours, or head Officers, by bill indented, vnto which their handes or markes shalbe set, whereof the one part shall remaine with the said Justices, the other with the said Lord Maior, Sherifes, Maiors, Baillifes, and other head Officers, all such summes of money as they shall haue received as aforesaide, together with the same writings made of the names and of the money giuers: and the said Lord Maior, Sherifes, Maiors, Baillifes, Gouernours & head Officers, & euery of them shall within one moneth next after the receipt thereof, transport and carrie, or cause to be carried vnto our said Citie of London, all such summes of money as they shal haue received towards the same contribucion, together with the said billes indented, and the same money there shal pay, and the said billes indented there deliuer to our louing Subiects, Thomas Smith Esquier, one of the Customers of our Citie of London, John Heynes Esquier, Serieant of our Catry, and Willian Heynes Gentleman, Purveyor of our prouision of Sea fish, or to one of them at the newe Mansion house of the said Thomas Smith, within our said Citie of London, who vpon the receipt therof shall giue vnto the saide Lord Maior, Sherifes, Maiors, Baillifes, Gouernours, & other head Officers from time to time, an acquittance of the receipt therof, and shall keepe the same money & billes indented in one Chest, to remaine with the saide Thomas Smith vnder three severall lockes, whereof one key to remaine with the saide Thomas Smith, another with the saide John Heynes, & the third with the saide Willian Heynes, & that they from time to time, vpon demand thereof to be made at the newe Mansion house of the said Thomas Smith, within our said Citie of London, shal yeild and pay ouer the same money, & deliuer the said billes indented so by them received, & euery part thereof vnto our welbeloued, the right honorable Anthony Viscount Montague, Knight of the most honorable order of the Garter, Willian Lord Cobham, Warden of our Cinque Portes, and Constable of our Castle of Douer, Thomas Lord Buckhurst, the said Richard Caluelley, John Jefferey, and Willian Relfe, or to any thre of them, whereof some one of the right honorable aforesaide or his sufficient deputie to be one: which said right honorable Anthony Viscount Montague, Willian Lord Cobham, Thomas Lord Buckhurst, and the said Richard Caluelley, John Jefferey, and Willian Relfe, we do ordene, appoint and constitute Surveyors of the said worke, giuing them, & to any thre of them, whereof some one of the said honorable, or his sufficient deputie to be one, full power and authozitie to set out, direct, gouerne, order, and rule the saide Worke, and the workemen about the same, and the saide workemen and laborers to pay, or cause to be paied: and of their proceedings and successe in the said worke, to certifie vs or our priuie Counsell vnder their handes and seales euery halfe yeere: So that expresse mention of the certaintie of the premisses, or of any other gift or graunt heretofore made by vs, or by any of our progenitors to the saide Richard Caluelley, John Jefferey, and Willian Relfe, and in thcse presentes be not rehearsed or declared, or any act, statute, ordinance, prouision, or restraint to the contrary hereof, had, made, ordeined or prouided, or any other cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary in any wise, notwithstanding.

In witnessse whereof we haue caused these our letters to be made Patentes: Witnesse our selfe at Cheynis, the one and thirtieth day of October, in the twentith yere of our raigne, 1578.

God sauе the Queene.



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